AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original)   A method of recording and reproducing information in which a recording area of a recording medium is physically divided into small pages and is partitioned into separate physical blocks each having a plurality of the pages so that information is recorded and reproduced in units of the blocks to and from the recording medium, the method comprising the steps of:

upon recording of information in units of the blocks, recording a specific part of information, in a replicated manner, into each of the pages within the block;

upon reproduction of the information recorded in the recording medium, reading the specific part of information and detecting an error in the read specific part of information; and

when the error is detected in the specific part of information, correcting the error in the specific part of information based on a result of majority voting for a plurality of pieces of the specific part of information recorded in the replicated manner into the same block as where the error is detected.

2. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claim 1, wherein an error correction code is assigned to information in each of the pages.

3. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claims 1, wherein the specific part of information is added with a parity bit that is one bit in size, and the error in the specific part of information is detected by parity checking.

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4. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claims 2,

wherein the specific part of information is added with a parity bit that is one bit in size,

and the error in the specific part of information is detected by parity checking.

5. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claims 1,

wherein the specific part of information is a logical address.

6. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claims 2,

wherein the specific part of information is a logical address.

7. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claims 3,

wherein the specific part of information is a logical address.

8. (Original)   The method of recording and reproducing information according to claims 4,

wherein the specific part of information is a logical address.

9. (Original)   An apparatus for recording and reproducing information that physically divides a

recording area of a recording medium into small pages and also partitions the recording area into

physical blocks each having a plurality of the pages so as thereby to record and reproduce

information in units of the blocks to and from the recording medium, the apparatus comprising:

a recording device which, when recording information into the block that is unused in the

recording medium, records a specific part of information, in a replicated manner, into each of the

pages within the unused block;

an error detection device which, when the information recorded in the recording medium

is reproduced, reads the specific part of information and detects an error in the read specific part

of information; and

an error correction device which, when the error is detected by the error detection device,

reads a plurality of pieces of the specific part of information recorded in the replicated manner in

the same block as where the error is detected, and corrects the error in the specific part of

information based on a result of majority voting for the plurality of pieces of read specific part of

information.

10. (Original) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claim 9,

wherein the recording device calculates an error correction code for information in each of the

pages recorded into the recording medium, and records a redundant part of the calculated error

correction code together with the information of the page.

11. (Original) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claims 9,

wherein the recording device calculates a parity bit that is one bit in size for the specific part of

information in each of the pages recorded into the recording medium, and adds the resultant

parity bit to the specific part of information thereby to record the resultant information.

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12. (Original) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claims 10, wherein the recording device calculates a parity bit that is one bit in size for the specific part of information in each of the pages recorded into the recording medium, and adds the resultant parity bit to the specific part of information thereby to record the resultant information.

13. (Original) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claim 11, wherein the error detection device detects the error in the specific part of information by applying parity checking to the specific part information in a head page within the block.

14. (Original) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claim 13, wherein the error correction device takes majority voting for each bit of the plurality of pieces of specific part of information and corrects the error bit by bit.

15. (New) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claim 14, wherein the corrected specific part of information is added to an address translation table until all the plurality of pieces of the specific part of information in all blocks have been read.

16. (New) The apparatus for recording and reproducing information according to claim 15, wherein the address translation table is created immediately after the power of the apparatus is turned on to initiate the parity checking.

17. (New)   The method for recording and reproducing information according to claim 5,

wherein the logical addresses are recorded in the replicated manner in all pages within the same

block as where the error is detected.